

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ashtabula River, located in northeast Ohio, has been identified by the International Joint Commission as an “Area of Concern”. The Ashtabula River Cleanup, as detailed in the Great Lakes Legacy Act - Request for Projects, involves the dredging, dewatering and disposal of nearly 600,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from the lower portion of the River. The Local Sponsor is the Ashtabula City Port Authority (ACPA), an Ohio statutory entity empowered to promote development of community resources. The ACPA is prepared to finance 35% of the total project costs in cooperation with various public and private entities, including the Ashtabula River Cooperation Group II (ARCG II), an association of companies organized for the purpose of implementing a cleanup of the Ashtabula River. The ACPA is also prepared to construct a TSCA-permitted disposal facility on property controlled by the ARCG II and assume the long-term operation and maintenance responsibilities. The investigative and feasibility phases of the project are complete and contained in the 2001 Comprehensive Management Plan as produced by the Ashtabula River Partnership under the direction of the US Army Corps of Engineers. The US Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency have provided a human health and ecological risk analysis and are satisfied that if the project is completed as provided by the “Deep Dredging Scenario” acceptable human health and ecological risk levels will be achieved. In addition, the ACPA and the community are satisfied that completion of the project will provide the necessary depth of water to support commercial and recreational boating. Pre-design, design and permitting tasks are approximately 35% complete. The project has advanced to the point that construction could commence in the summer/fall of 2004. It is anticipated that the project will take four (4) years and cost approximately \$41 million.